

**Arkansas/Louisiana West Gulf Coastal Plain
Conservation Delivery Network Meeting
February 11, 2015
Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources, Smackover, AR**

Meeting Summary

The Arkansas/Louisiana West Gulf Coastal Plain Conservation Delivery Network (ARLA CDN) held its first meeting on 11 February 2015 at the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources near Smackover Arkansas. Thirty-eight conservation delivery professionals participated, representing the Arkansas Forestry Commission, Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, Hancock Forest Management, International Paper, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, The Nature Conservancy (Arkansas & Louisiana), Plum Creek, Texas Department of Wildlife & Fisheries, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service (Arkansas & Louisiana) and staff of the Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture.

The meeting was facilitated by CDN Co-Chairs David Breithaupt (LDWF) and Steve Fowler (AGFC). The agenda included information and discussions on the need and purpose for the CDN, the role of the Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture in CDN formation, the basic objectives of CDNs, success stories and experiences from the Arkansas MAV CDN, draft Operating Guidelines and concluded with discussion of high priority landscape-scale resource issues facing the upper West Gulf Coastal Plain in Arkansas and Louisiana. A Delivery Prioritization Working Group was formed to draft a set of geographic and functional priorities based on the collective resource issues of CDN members. The Working Group is composed of Don Bragg (USFS), Kate Hasapes (LDWF), Bill Holimon (ANHC), Roger Mangham (TNC AR), Steve Nipper (NRCS LA), Jason Nolde (USFS), Mike Stroeh (USFWS), Jeff Taverner (AGFC), and Dan Weber (TNC LA). Recommendations from this Working Group will be presented and discussed by the full CDN at the next meeting tentatively scheduled for August 2015.

The CDN Steering Committee is composed of representatives from the Arkansas Forestry Commission, Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, The Nature Conservancy (Arkansas & Louisiana), National Wild

Turkey Federation, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S.D.A. Forest Service and U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service (Arkansas & Louisiana).

CDN members were asked to provide any comments regarding the proposed Operating Guidelines, CDN geography or Steering Committee membership to the Co-Chairs or a Steering Committee member as soon as possible.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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Meeting Objectives: 1) Review the purpose and functions of the Conservation Delivery Network; 2) Review the general CDN Operating Guidance; 3) Discuss a strategy for identifying priority landscapes and projects in the AR-LA WGCP geography, 4) Select a Working Group to develop a Delivery Strategy.

Agenda:

9:00-9:20	Opening Remarks	Ricky Chastain CDN Co-Chairs
9:20-9:50	CDN Partner Introductions	
9:50 -10:20	CDN Purpose, Function & Need CDN Strategy	Doyle Shook
10:20-10:40	Break	
10:40-11:00	CDN Purpose, Function & Need continued: Why a CDN - What's in it for Me?	Roger Mangham
11:00-12:00	ARLA CDN Establishment & Organization Overview of CDN Charter & Operating Guidelines CDN Geography Steering Committee Recommendation Q&A/Discussion	CDN Co-Chairs
12:00-1:15	Lunch	
1:15-2:00	Conservation Delivery Planning & Prioritization Prioritizing & coordinating conservation actions Q&A/Discussion	Doyle Shook
	Delivery Strategy Working Group Selection	CDN Co-Chairs
2:00-3:00	Review & Finalize Action Items Working Group Action Items Next Meeting Date/Location Discussion	CDN Co-Chairs